

PRI

This little impudent hardware-man turns into ridicule the direful apprehensions of the whole kingdom, *priding himself as the cause of them.* *Swift's Miscel.*

PRIE. *n. f.* I suppose an old name of privet.

Lop poplar and fallow, elme, maple and prie, *Tusser.*

Wel faved from cattel, till summer to lie.

PRIEF for *prose.* *Spenser.*

PRIER. *n. f.* [from *pry.*] One who enquires too narrowly.

PRIEST. *n. f.* [priest, Sax. *præste*, Fr.]

1. One who officiates in sacred offices.

Ill to the vicar,

Bring you the maid, you shall not lack a priest. *Shakesp.*

The high priest shall not uncover his head. *Lev. xxi. 10.*

Our practice of finging differs from the practice of David, the priests and Levites. *Peabam.*

These pray'r I thy priest before thee bring. *Milton.*

2. One of the second order in the hierarchy, above a deacon, below a bishop.

No neighbours, but a few poor simple clowns,

Honest and true, with a well-meaning priest. *Rowe.*

PRIESTCRAFT. *n. f.* [priest and craft.] Religious frauds;

management of wicked priests to gain power.

Puzzle has half a dozen common-place topics; though

the debate be about Doway, his discourse runs upon bigotry and priestcraft. *Speclator.*

From priestcraft happily set free,

Lo! ev'ry finish'd son returns to thee. *Pope.*

PRIESTESS. *n. f.* [from *priest.*] A woman who officiated in heathen rites.

Then too, our mighty fire, thou stood'st disarm'd,

When thy rapt soul the lovely priestess charm'd,

That Rome's high founder bore. *Addison.*

These two, being the sons of a lady who was priestess to Juno, drew their mother's chariot to the temple. *Speclator.*

She as priestess knows the rites,

Wherein the God of earth delights. *Swift's Miscel.*

Th' inferior priestess, at her altar's side,

Trembling, begins the sacred rites of pride. *Pope.*

PRIESTHOOD. *n. f.* [from *priest.*]

1. The office and character of a priest.

Jeroboam is reproved, because he took the priesthood from the tribe of Levi. *Whitgift.*

The priesthood hath in all nations, and all religions, been held highly venerable. *Athenbury's Sermons.*

2. The order of men set apart for holy offices.

Is your priesthood grown so peremptory? *Shakesp.*

He pretends, that I have fallen foul on priesthood. *Dryden.*

3. The second order of the hierarchy. See **PRIEST.**

PRIESTHOOD. *n. f.* [from *priestly.*] The appearance or manner of a priest.

PRIESTLY. *adj.* [from *priest.*] Becoming a priest; sacerdotal; belonging to a priest.

In the Jewish church, none that was blind or lame was capable of the priestly office. *South's Sermons.*

How can incest suit with holiness,

Or priestly orders with a princely state? *Dryden.*

PRIESTRIDEN. *adj.* [priest and ridden.] Managed or governed by priests.

Such a cant of high-church and persecution, and being priestridden. *Swift.*

TO PRIEVE for *prove.* *Spenser.*

PRIG. *n. f.* [A cant word derived perhaps from *prick*, as he pricks up, he is *pert*; or from *pricked*, an epithet of reproach bestowed upon the presbyterian teachers.] A pert, conceited, saucy, pragmatical, little fellow.

The little man concluded, with calling monsieur Mesnager an insignificant prig. *Speclator, N° 482.*

There have I seen some active prig,

To fiew his parts, bestride a twig. *Swift's Miscel.*

PRILL. *n. f.* A bird or turbot. *Ainsworth.*

PRIM. *adj.* [by contraction from *primitive.*] Formal; precise; affectedly nice.

A ball of new dropt horse's dung,

Mingling with apples in the throng,

Said to the pippin, plump and prim,

See, brother, how we apples swim. *Swift's Miscel.*

TO PRIM. *v. a.* [from the adjective.] To deck up precisely; to form to an affected nicety.

PRIMACY. *n. f.* [primatic, primace, Fr. *primatus*, Lat.] The chief ecclesiastical station.

When he had now the primacy in his own hand, he thought he should be to blame if he did not apply remedies. *Clarend.*

PRIMAGE. *n. f.* The freight of a ship. *Ainsworth.*

PRIMAL. *adj.* [primus, Lat.] First. A word not in use, but very commodious for poetry.

It hath been taught us from the primal state,

That he, which is, was with'd, until he were. *Shakesp.*

Oh! my offence is rank, it smells to heav'n,

It hath the primal, eldest curse upon't. *Shakesp.*

PRIMARILY. *adv.* [from *primary.*] Originally; in the first intention; in the first place.

In fevers, where the heart primarily suffereth, we apply medicines unto the wrists. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

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These considerations so exactly suiting the parable of the wedding-supper to this spiritual banquet of the gospel, if it does not *primarily*, and in its first design, intend it; yet certainly it may, with greater advantage of resemblance, be applied to it, than to any other duty. *South's Sermons.*

PRIMARINESS. *n. f.* [from *primary.*] The state of being first in act or intention.

That which is peculiar, must be taken from the *primaries* and secondaries of the perception. *Norris.*

PRIMARY. *adj.* [primarius, Lat.]

1. First in intention.

The figurative notation of this word, and not the *primary* or literal, belongs to this place. *Hammond.*

2. Original; first.

Before that beginning, there was neither *primary* matter to be informed, nor form to inform, nor any being but the eternal. *Raleigh's History of the World.*

When the ruins both *primary* and secondary were settled, the waters of the abyss began to settle too. *Burnet.*

These I call original or *primary* qualities of body, which produce simple ideas in us, viz. solidity, extension, figure and motion. *Locke.*

3. First in dignity; chief; principal.

As the six *primary* planets revolve about him, so the secondary ones are moved about them in the same isothermal proportion of their periodical motions to their orbs. *Bentley.*

PRIMATE. *n. f.* [primatus, Fr. *primas*, Lat.] The chief ecclesiastick.

When the power of the church was first established, the archbishops of Canterbury and York had then no preeminence one over the other; the former being *primate* over the Southern, as the latter was over the Northern parts. *Ashe.*

The late and present *primate*, and the lord archbishop of Dublin hath left memorials of his bounty. *Swift.*

PRIMATESHIP. *n. f.* [from *primate.*] The dignity or office of a *primate*.

PRIME. *n. f.* [primus, Lat.]

1. The first part of the day; the dawn; the morning.

His laum bell might loud and wide be heard

When cause requir'd, but never out of time,

Early and late it rung at evening and at prime. *Spenser.*

Sure pledge of day, that crown'd the smiling morn

With thy bright circlet, praise him in thy sphere

While day arises, that sweet hour of prime. *Milton.*

2. The beginning; the early days.

Quickly sundry arts mechanical were found out in the very prime of the world. *Hooker, b. i. f. 10.*

Nature here wanton'd as in her prime. *Milton.*

3. The best part.

Give no more to ev'ry guest,

Than he's able to digest,

Give him always of the prime,

And but little at a time. *Swift.*

4. The spring of life; the height of health, strength or beauty.

Make haste, sweet love, whilst it is prime,

For none can call again the passed time. *Spenser.*

Will she yet debate her eyes on me,

That cropt the golden prime of this sweet prince,

And made her widow to a woful bed? *Shakesp. Rich. III.*

Youth, beauty, wisdom, courage, virtue, all

That happiness and prime can happy call,

Likeliest the seem'd to Ceres in her prime. *Milton.*

No poet ever sweetly sung,

Unless he were, like Phœbus, young;

Nor ever nymph inspir'd to rhyme,

Unless, like Venus, in her prime. *Swift.*

Short were her marriage joys; for in the prime

Of youth, her lord expir'd before his time. *Dryden.*

5. Spring.

Hope waits upon the flow'ry prime,

And summer, though it be less gay,

Yet is not look'd on as a time

Of declination or decay. *Waller.*

The poet and his theme in spite of time,

For ever young enjoys an endless prime. *Graville.*

6. The height of perfection.

The plants which now appear in the most different seasons, would have been all in prime, and flourishing together at the same time. *Woodward.*

7. The first canonical hour.

The first part; the beginning: as, the prime of the moon.

PRIME. *adj.* [primus, Lat.]

1. Early; blooming.

His itary helm unbuck'd, shew'd him prime

In manhood, where youth ended. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

2. Principal; first rate.

Divers of prime quality, in several counties, were, for refusing to pay the same, committed to prison. *Clarendon.*

Nor can I think, that God will so destroy

We his prime creatures dignify'd so high. *Milton.*

Humility and resignation are our prime virtues. *Dryden.*

3. First;

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3. First; original.

We smother'd

The most replenish'd sweet work of nature,

That from the prime creation e'er she fram'd. *Shakesp.*

Moses being chosen by God to be the ruler of his people,

will not prove that priesthood belonged to Adam's heir, or the prime fathers. *Locke.*

4. Excellent. It may, in this loose sense, perhaps admit, though scarcely with propriety, a superlative.

We are contented with

Catharine our queen, before the *primest* creature

That's paragon'd i' th' world. *Shakesp. Henry VIII.*

TO PRIME. *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To put in the first powder; to put powder in the pan of a gun.

A pistol of about a foot in length, we *primed* with well-dried gunpowder. *Boyle.*

Prime all your firelocks, fasten well the stake. *Gay.*

His friendship was exactly tim'd,

He shot before your foes were *prim'd*. *Swift's Miscel.*

2. [Primer, Fr. to begin.] To lay the first colours on in painting. A Gallicism.

PRIMELY. *adv.* [from *prime.*]

1. Originally; primarily; in the first place; in the first intention.

Words signify not immediately and *primely* things themselves, but the conceptions of the mind about them. *South.*

2. Excellently; supremely well. A low sense.

PRIMENESS. *n. f.* [from *prime.*]

1. The state of being first.

2. Excellence.

PRIMER. *n. f.*

1. An office of the blessed Virgin.

Another prayer to her is not only in the manual, but in the primer or office of the blessed Virgin. *Stillington.*

2. [Primer, Lat.] A small prayer book in which children are taught to read, so named from the Romish book of devotions; an elementary book.

The Lord's prayer, the creed and ten commandments he should learn by heart, not by reading them himself in his primer, but by somebody's repeating them before he can read. *Locke on Education.*

PRIMERO. *n. f.* [Spanish.] A game at cards.

I left him at *primero*

With the duke of Suffolk. *Shakesp. Henry VIII.*

PRIMEVAL. *adj.* [primævus, Lat.] Original; such as was *primeval* at first.

Immortal dove,

Thou with almighty energy did'st move

On the wild waves, incumbent did'st display

Thy genial wings, and hatch *primeval* day. *Blackmore.*

All the parts of this great fabric change;

Quit their old stations and *primeval* frame,

And lose their shape, their essence, and their name. *Prior.*

PRIMITIAL. *adj.* [primitivus, Lat.] Being of the first production. *Ainsworth.*

PRIMITIVE. *adj.* [primitivus, Fr. *primitif*, Lat.]

1. Ancient; original; established from the beginning.

Their superstition pretends, they cannot do God greater service, than utterly to destroy the *primitive* apostolical government of the church by bishops. *King Charles.*

David reflects sometimes upon the present form of the world, and sometimes upon the *primitive* form of it. *Burnet.*

The doctrine of purgatory, by which they mean an estate of temporary punishments after this life, was not known in the *primitive* church, nor can be proved from scripture. *Tillot.*

2. Formal; affectedly solemn; imitating the supposed gravity of old times.

3. Original; primary; not derivative: as, in grammar, a *primitive verb*.

Our *primitive* great fire, to meet

His godlike guest, walks forth. *Milton.*

PRIMITIVELY. *adv.* [from *primitive.*]

1. Originally; at first.

Solemnities and ceremonies, *primitively* enjoined, were afterward omitted, the occasion ceasing. *Brown.*

2. Primarily; not derivatively.

3. According to the original rule; according to ancient practice.

The purest and most *primitively* reformed church in the world was laid in the dust. *South's Sermons.*

PRIMITIVENESS. *n. f.* [from *primitive.*] State of being original; antiquity; conformity to antiquity.

PRIMNESS. *n. f.* [from *prim.*] Affecting niceness or formality.

PRIMOGENIAL. *adj.* [primogenius, Lat. it should therefore have been written *primigenial*.] Firstborn; original; primary; constituent; elemental.

The *primogenial* light at first was diffused over the face of the unfashioned chaos. *Clarendon's Scipio.*

It is not easy to discern, among many differing substances obtained from the same matter, what *primogenial* and simple bodies convened together compose it. *Boyle.*

The first or *primogenial* earth, which rose out of the chaos, was not like the present earth. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*

3. First;

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PRIMOGENITURE. *n. f.* [primogeniture, Fr. from *primus* genitus, Lat.] Seniority; eldership; state of being firstborn.

Because the scripture affordeth the priority of order unto Sem, we cannot from hence infer his *primogeniture*. *Brown.*

The first provoker has, by his seniority and *primogeniture*, a double portion of the guilt. *Government of the Tongue.*

PRIMO'DIAL. *adj.* [primordial, Fr. *primordium*, Lat.] Original; existing from the beginning.

Salts may be either transmutated or otherwise produced, and so may not be *primordial* and immutable beings. *Boyle.*

PRIMO'DIAN. *n. f.* [from the *adj.*] Origin; first principle.

The *primordials* of the world are not mechanical, but spiritual and vital. *More's Divine Dialogues.*

PRIMO'DIAN. *n. f.* See **PLUM**, of which it is a species.

PRIMO'DIATE. *adj.* [from *primordium*, Lat.] Original; existing from the first.

Not every thing chymists will call salt, sulphur or spirit, that needs always be a *primordiate* and ingenerable body. *Boyle.*

PRIMOSE. *n. f.* [primula variis, Lat.] A plant.

The flower of the *primose* consists of one leaf, the lower part of which is tubulose, but the upper part expands itself flat in form of a salver, and is cut into several segments;